From submission to publication
Six steps to inspire trust in science

**SUBMISSION**
Corresponding author is asked to provide:
- Verifiable information (eg ORCID, links to any datasets, funding, affiliation)
- Name and institution, as well as details of co-authors to enable us to contact them

**TRIAGE**
We assign most suitable editor, ensuring:
- Expertise to select appropriate reviewers
- No competing interests

**SCREENING**
We run checks for:
- Text similarity check
- Image manipulation
- Competing interests
- Accessibility of supporting datasets and whether these are sufficient to reproduce the paper
- Journal scope suitability
- Availability of appropriate editors
- Ethical compliance

**REVIEW**
When assigning reviewers, we look at:
- Relevant expertise
- Authenticity and experience (Publons, Scopus)
- Any competing interests
In addition:
- We are responsive to reviewer feedback (eg data accessibility, ethical concerns)
- We check reviewer reports
- Open access fees and fee waiver requests are handled independently of the editorial process

**REVISION AND ACCEPTANCE**
We check:
- Author’s response to reviewer comments
We double-check:
- Data accessibility
- Funding
- All information provided by authors

**PRODUCTION**
Following acceptance, our Production team oversee:
- Copy-editing and proof-reading
- Final checks including the review history availability and fully accessible data